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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/317,719	05/24/1999	JEOM JAE KIM	39574.18	9474

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUNG T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2871

DATE MAILED: 11/26/2001

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/317,719

Applicant(s)
Kim

Examiner
Dung Nguyen

Art Unit
2871



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-52 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on May 24, 1999 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other:

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Declaration for Patent Application on 05/24/1999. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the Prior Foreign Application (P98-18883) as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Specification

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show cutting protection members (157a, 167a) in figure 4 as described in the specification. It should be noted that the cutting protection members have been shown in figures 6 and 8; however, such figures are a cross-sectional view of figure 4, so that have to be shown in figure 4. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d). Correction is required.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claims 1, 11 and 21, it is confusing and unclear what is meant by “a second panel connected to the first panel” (added emphasis). It is assumed for examination, according to the specification and drawings, that a second panel coupled to a first panel .

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

7. Claims 1-6, 9-16, 19-26 and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicant's admitted prior art (AAP), figure 1.

The above claims are clearly anticipated by AAP's figure 1 and accompanying text, which discloses a liquid crystal display (LCD) device of Applicant's figure 4, as so claimed in the above claims.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 7-8, 17-18 and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's admitted prior art (AAP), figure 1.

Regarding the above claims, AAP discloses the LCD device except for a cut protection member formed on the second substrate. One of ordinary skill in the art would have realized the desire to form a protection layer (e.g, a cut protection member) on a second substrate for the purpose of protecting the second substrate. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention was made to form a cut protection member on a second substrate of an LCD device to protect a second substrate from damage.

10. Claims 31-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Izumi et al., US Patent No. 6,236,446, in view of Applicant's admitted prior art (AAP), figure 1.

Regarding claims 31-34, 36-42, 44-49 and 52, Izumi et al. disclose a method for cutting substrate in display panel fabrication (figures 6A, 6C) comprising the step of:

- forming a first substrate (color substrate 4);
- a second substrate (active matrix substrate 3)
- joining the first and the second substrate together;

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- injecting liquid crystal material therebetween (inherently forming in the LCD);
- cutting a portion of the color substrate (fig. 6A), so that a terminal (i.e, pad) are exposed (fig. 6C).

Although Izumi et al. do not disclose a step of forming a common electrode, an arranged active matrix (gate/source/drain pad, gate/source/drain bus line, etc) as claimed, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to provide such component on the active matrix and/or the color substrate as shown in AAP since it is a common practice in the LCD art to form an active matrix LCD device.

Regarding claims 35, 43 and 50-51, Izumi et al. disclose the claimed invention as described above except for a cut protection member formed on the second substrate. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to form a cut protection member on a second substrate of an LCD device as stated above to protect a second substrate from damage.

Conclusion


11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0423. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

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Any information of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DN
11/13/2001


William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 2871